

him by the French government in appreciation for the World War II liberation. Upon his retirement with the rank of General, Nelson enlisted in the Air Force Reserves as a ready reservist. He presently serves as South Dakota's Commander of the World War II Glider Pilot Association.

Mr. President, Nelson Lagendyk richly deserves this noble distinction. It is an honor for me to share his heroic accomplishments with my colleagues and to publicly commend him for serving South Dakota and our country valiantly.●

A TRIBUTE TO JIM KANOUSE

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today in tribute to Jim Kanouse of The Boeing Company, who is retiring after fourteen years of service with the aerospace company and over 30 years of service with the United States Army and the United States Congress.

Jim grew up in America's heartland, South Bend, Indiana, and graduated from Indiana University. He also attended the University of Notre Dame, and throughout his career has maintained the highest standards of his alma maters, always leading by example as a proud member of the "Indiana Hoosiers" and the "Fighting Irish."

Jim continued his career as an officer and Army Aviator with the United States Army including three tours of duty in Vietnam. He was highly decorated for valor and wounds in combat. As a pilot of numerous aircraft, including the very dangerous and very demanding OV-1 "Mohawk," Jim survived many encounters and engagements with enemy forces ranging from an arrow shot at his aircraft in a rice paddy to a .50 caliber round piercing his fuselage and striking his pilot seat. He was highly decorated for valor and wounds in combat, including the Distinguished Flying Cross for rescuing a downed pilot. Like so many of his generation, Jim served proudly, unselfishly and bravely with little fanfare, recognition or appreciation. On behalf of the United States Senate, the United States Congress and the American people, I salute Jim Kanouse and all the veterans of his generation.

Jim eventually brought his skills to Washington, D.C. representing U.S. Army Legislative Affairs in the House of Representatives. Escorting members overseas, representing Army programs to members and staff, and responding to constituent inquiries about Army affairs, he again proudly served his nation and service. Members who traveled with Jim respected his knowledge, expertise and easygoing style. Respected by Democrats and Republicans alike, he then left Capitol Hill to pursue a career in legislative affairs with The Boeing Company.

For over a decade, Jim Kanouse was one of the primary focal points for Sen-

ators and Representatives with the world's largest aerospace company, representing revolutionary aircraft programs ranging from the RAH-66 "Comanche" Army scout helicopter to the F-22 "Raptor" Air Force jet fighter.

I consider Jim Kanouse a friend. We all in Congress wish you well deserved time to enjoy life with your lovely wife, Eileen, and your loving children and grandchildren. Congratulations on your retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO THE "BUILDING SKILLS FOR AMERICA" CAMPAIGN

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, last week nearly 200 high school and college student members of Skills USA-Vocational Industrial Clubs of America, their instructors, and corporate sponsors came to Capitol Hill to report the results of their year-long "Building Skills for America" signature campaign. Building Skills for America is a public awareness initiative by Skills USA-VICA to demonstrate the urgent needs of business and industry for a highly-skilled work force and the private sector's effective support for occupational instruction.

The campaign has given these students the opportunity to speak to their communities about their pride in their chosen professions and the many opportunities available through good technical education. The students were able to collect 200,000 signatures for the campaign. I congratulate all of these students for their skillful work and dedication in promoting state-of-the-art vocational education and job training programs.

I ask that a congratulatory letter to these outstanding young leaders, signed by Senators COLLINS, REED, GRASSLEY, KERRY, INHOFE, MILLER, LUGAR, BRYAN, MURKOWSKI, DODD, ROTH, KERREY, DEWINE, MURRAY, HAGEL, MIKULSKI, HATCH, HARKIN, REID, LINCOLN, BINGAMAN, HOLLINGS, LEVIN, CONRAD, CLELAND, WYDEN and myself may be printed in the RECORD.

The letter follows:

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, September 20, 2000.

STUDENT MEMBERS AND STAFF,
SkillsUSA-VICA.

Warmest congratulations on your impressive efforts to raise the awareness of all Americans about the importance of a well-trained workforce. We commend you for your recognition that the nation's prosperity depends on the skills of our workers, and that a shortage of highly-skilled workers threatens American competitiveness and hampers the ability of companies to compete successfully in the modern economy.

It is estimated that the nation will have 50 million job openings between now and 2006—and most of these openings will require highly developed skills. Clearly, we must do more to promote the training necessary to respond to this challenge.

Education and technical training offered through the nation's colleges and schools in

conjunction with the SkillsUSA-VICA program is a national resource for teaching the academic, occupational, and professional skills that will help students to become well-trained workers and responsible citizens. The 200,000 signatures that you collected over the past year in your Building Skills for America campaign have increased public support for the on-going education and training of the workforce across the country.

You deserve great credit for the success of your Building America Campaign. We are proud to support continuing state-of-the-art vocational education programs and job training programs that reflect the changing needs of American business and industry. The contributions of hard-working Americans have been and will continue to be essential to the prosperity of the nation. We look forward to working closely with you to achieve these important goals.

Edward M. Kennedy, Susan M. Collins, Jack Reed, Charles E. Grassley, John F. Kerry, James M. Inhofe, Zell Miller, Richard G. Lugar, Richard H. Bryan, Frank H. Murkowski, Christopher J. Dodd, William V. Roth, Jr., J. Robert Kerrey, Mike DeWine, Patty Murray, Chuck Hagel, Barbara A. Mikulski, Orrin G. Hatch, Tom Harkin, Harry Reid, Blanche L. Lincoln, Jeff Bingaman, Ernest F. Hollings, Carl Levin, Kent Conrad, Ron Wyden, Max Cleland.●

MS. LILLIAN ADAMS RECEIVES 2000 ALEXANDER MACOMB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, each year the Southeast Michigan Chapter of the March of Dimes recognizes a select group of individuals whose contributions to the Macomb County, Michigan, community have been invaluable. I rise today to recognize Ms. Lillian Adams, who will receive an Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year Award at a dinner benefitting the March of Dimes on September 27, 2000.

Ms. Adams has served as Executive Director of the Sterling Heights Area Chamber of Commerce for the past 24 years, after having held the same position on St. Clair Shores Chamber of Commerce for eight years. Her duties within these organizations have included small business advocacy, service as community ombudsman, and hosting local business cable programs.

Ms. Adams is a devoted participant in the Macomb County Community Growth Alliance and the St. Joseph Mercy Community Foundation. She has been an active supporter of the March of Dimes and the Kiwanis Club and serves on the boards of the Otsikita Girl Scouts and the Macomb Symphony Orchestra.

Ms. Adams also was a founding member of the Sterling Heights Foundation and the Shelby Township Community Foundation, and a past president of the Utica Community Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence.

And, as dedicated as she has been to these many causes, Ms. Adams is even more dedicated to her two sons, Micheal and Brian, and her grandchild, Brigitte.